

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 AID-20 IO-14 OMB-01

SCCT-02 OPR-02 SAM-01 DRC-01 /145 W

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O R 181607Z JUL 74

FM AMCONSUL LUANDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2783

INFO AMEMBASY LISBON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

CINC FOR POLAD

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUANDA 0568

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS AO

SUBJECT: SECURITY SITUATION IN LUANDA - NOON JULY 18

REF: LUANDA 561

1. IN PRIVATE EXCHANGE JULY 18 BETWEEN CONGEN OFFICER AND RELIABLE
SOURCE AT HIGH COMMAND LATTER SAID:

A. SITUATION IN MOST OF CITY IS NOW CALM BUT ARMY STILL
MEETING SPORADIC UNCOORDINATED RESISTANCE IN SOME NATIVE AREAS.
COMMENT: WE AGREE. PARA 4 REFTEL BASED ON FACT BUT GROSSLY
EXAGGERATED.

B. ARMY HAS EVIDENCE THAT FNLA POLITICAL CADRES HAVE ENTERED
CITY WITH IDEA OF FOMENTING MORE DISORDER, BUT THEY HAVE BEEN
UNABLE TO CAPTURE ANY. COMMENT: BELIEVE THIS, AND DISTORTION OF
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EARLIER REPORT (LUANDA 538) MAY BE ORIGIN OF REPORT CONTAINED

LUANDA 555.

C. MPLA EFFECTIVES DO NOT APPEAR TO BE INVOLVED IN CURRENT WAVE OF VIOLENCE AND, EXCEPT FOR FNLA CADRE, ARMY KNOWS OF NO OTHER FORMAL ORGANIZATION PARTICIPATING. MOST PROBLEMS NOW SEEM TO BE WORK OF INDIVIDUAL LOOTERS, DISCONTENTED BLACKS AND VENGEFUL WHITES.

D. WITH EXCEPTION OF CLASH WHICH OCCURED JULY 15 (LUANDA 548 AND 550) MOST ACTS OF VIOLENCE (SHOOTINGS, BURNINGS, LOOTINGS) HAVE TAKEN PLACE IN BLACK NEIGHBORHOODS, USUALLY DIRECTED AGAINST SMALL WHITE MERCHANTS. SOURCE DESCRIBED PROBLEM AS "RACIAL, NOT POLITICAL."

E. THERE IS REAL SHORTAGE OF FOOD IN THOSE NEIGHBORHOODS EFFECTED AND ARMY HAS SENT IN 10 TRUCKLOADS OF SUPPLIES TO BE SOLD (BELOW RETAIL PRICE) IN AREAS WHOSE STORES DESTROYED.

F. ALL BLACK UNITS, SOME WITH WHITE OFFICERS, HAVE BEEN FORMED TO PATROL THE BLACK NEIGHBORHOODS. REINFORCEMENTS FROM NON-COMBAT ZONES IN INTERIOR HAVE BEEN BROUGHT INTO LUANDA IN ORDER TO BOLSTER THE LOCAL GARRISON.

G. MORALE LOW AMONG TROOPS (BLACK AND WHITE) BUT REPORT (HEARD ON FOREIGN RADIO) THAT RECENTLY ARRIVED WHITE TROOPS JULY 16 HAD REFUSED TO PROCEED TO FRONT IS FALSE. HE DENIED RUMOR THAT THERE HAVE BEEN ANY PROBLEMS BETWEEN WHITE AND BLACK TROOPS. (CONGEN OFFICER JULY 18 SAW A WHITE SOLDIER IN FIST-FIGHT WITH A BLACK SOLDIER IN BLACK NEIGHBORHOOD, WHILE ARMED BLACK AND WHITE SOLDIERS STOOD BY. THIS INCIDENT AND THAT REPORTED PARA 3 REFTEL PROBABLY REASON FOR ALARMING REPORT EARLIER IN DAY THAT BLACK AND WHITE TROOPS BATTLING EACH OTHER.)

H. NO REINFORCEMENTS HAVE BEEN SENT FROM LISBON EXCEPT FOR ADDITIONAL DETECTIVES AND PROSECUTORS FROM POLICIA JUDICIARIA IN ORDER TO HANDLE CASES OF THOSE ARRESTED AS A RESULT OF DISTURBANCES.

2. SOURCE HOPED ARMY WILL BRING THINGS UNDER CONTROL SHORTLY AND SAID THERE IS NO REASON FOR ANYONE TO THINK ABOUT LEAVING. HE ADMITTED THAT SITUATION WAS SERIOUS BUT SAW NO PROSPECT THAT
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IT WOULD GO OUT OF CONTROL.

3. SOURCE OBLIQUELY CONFIRMED SPLIT BETWEEN GOVGEN AND CINC. STATED MFA STILL FUNCTIONING HERE, IS PLAYING MAJOR ROLE, AND IS TALKING TO BLACK LEADERS IN ATTEMPT CALM SITUATION.

4. SOURCE PROFESSED NOT TO KNOW IF OR WHEN COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY OR SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF LISBON GOVERNMENT WOULD ARRIVE HERE.

5. COMMENT: MILITARY AT PRESENT ARE ONLY SOURCE OF STABILITY
IN CITY. OUR SOURCE, WHILE REFLECTING HIGH COMMAND'S SINCERE WISH
TO END ACTS OF VIOLENCE, DID NOT GIVE THE IMPRESSION HE ENTIRELY
CONVINCED THIS WILL BE ACHIEVED.
BRIGGS

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